GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2759
ANSWERED ON:02.08.2016
Remunerative Prices for Onion
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the onion farmers are getting adequate remunerative prices for their produce in the country, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether the onion growers have suffered losses on account of import of onion in the country during each of the last three years and the current year, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(c) whether the Government has provided adequate assistance for development of infrastructure for post harvest management and marketing facilities to onion growers in the country, if so, the details thereof along with the other steps taken/being taken by the Government to ensure remunerative prices to onion growers in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

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(a): Price of onion differs from place to place and depends on various factors such as seasonality of production, quality of produce, mismatch in demand and supply etc. Production of onion has increased about 7% in 2015-16 over the previous year. The average cost of production of rabi onion was around Rs.6-7 per kg. The average wholesale prices of onion prevailing in major states are given below:

(Rs. In Quintal)
States Current Week 28/07/2016 Previous Week 21/07/2016 A Month Ago 28/06/2016
Delhi 825 750 700
Haryana 1250 1325 1100
Punjab 1367 1267 933
Uttar Pradesh 1213 1163 1188
Gujarat 1175 1181 1188
Madhya Pradesh 917 950 917
Maharashtra 1269 1269 1204
Rajasthan 1050 1000 967
Bihar 1133 1133 1083
West Bengal 1400 1320 1050
Telangana 1200 1200 1200
Seemandhra 1367 1483 1333
Karnataka 1500 1350 1450
Tamil Nadu 1280 1360 1320
All India Average 1210 1197 1117
Source: D/o Consumer Affairs
Contdâ€¦2/-

(b): No, Madam. The import of onion is very low. The year-wise import of onion is as shown:-

(in Tonnes)
Period 2013-14 2014-15 2015-16 2016-17 (up to June)
17846 813 87324 0

(c): Government has taken numerous steps for infrastructure development, post harvest management and marketing facilities to ensure remunerative prices to horticulture farmers including onion growers in the country. These include the following:

â€¢ Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) for holistic development of horticulture in the country including creation of infrastructure for post harvest management and marketing.

â€¢ Facilitating direct marketing, contract farming, setting up of private markets, farmer consumer markets and e-markets.

â€¢ Market Intervention Scheme (MIS), implemented for procurement of agricultural and horticultural commodities, including onion which aims to provide remunerative prices to the farmers in case of glut in production and fall in prices. Under the MIS, losses, if any, are shared between the Central Government and State Government concerned on 50:50 basis.

â€¢ Providing market information to farmers on prices and arrivals of agricultural commodities in regulated markets on AGMARKNET portal.

â€¢ "Market Information Service for Horticulture Crops" implemented by National Horticulture Board (NHB) which has established a network connecting 35 major wholesale fruit and vegetable markets in the country. The information generated is available on NHB website.

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